CLAIMS

1. A functional beverage containing an O-methylated catechin expressed by the chemical formula (1) shown below, wherein the functional beverage contains the O-methylated catechin in a quantity of active ingredient as an allergic rhinitis-suppressing drug, a lipid-lowering drug and a gallbladder/liver function-improving drug.

HO
$$X_2$$
 OR_1 OR_2 OR_2 OR_1 OR_2 OR_2 OR_1 OR_2 OR_2

[in which R1, R2, R3 and R4 are each independently a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, X1 and X2 are each independently a hydrogen atom or a hydroxy group.]

- 2. The functional beverage according to claim 1, wherein the functional beverage is produced by extracting tea leaves.
- 3. The functional beverage according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the functional beverage contains the O-methylated catechin in an amount of 1 mg to 30 mg per 100 ml of the beverage.
- 4. The functional beverage according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the O-methylated catechin is derived from one selected from the group consisting of "Benifuuki", "Benifuji", "Benihomare", "Yaeho", "Surugawase", "Yutakamidori", "Kanayamidori", "Okumusashi",

"Seishin-taipan", "Seishin-oolong", "Ohba-oolong", "Benibana", "Benihikari", "Yamakai", "Yamamidori", "Karabeni", "Koushun", "Souhuu", "Okumidori" and mixtures thereof.

- 5. The functional beverage according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the functional beverage is labeled to be effective for at least one of suppressing allergic rhinitis and effective for improving hyperlipemia and gallbladder/liver function.
- 6. A composition containing an O-methylated catechin expressed by the chemical formula (1) shown below, wherein the composition contains the O-methylated catechin in a constitutive effective amount as an allergic rhinitis-suppressing drug and a lipid-lowering drug.

HO
$$OR_3$$
 OR_4
 OR_2
 OR_1
 OR_2
 OR_1
 OR_2
 OR_1
 OR_2
 OR_2
 OR_3
 OR_4
 OR_2
 OR_4
 OR_2
 OR_4
 OR_2
 OR_4
 OR_4
 OR_5
 OR_6
 OR_7
 OR_8
 OR_9
 OR_9

[in which R1, R2, R3 and R4 are each independently a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, X1 and X2 are each independently a hydrogen atom or a hydroxy group.]

7. The composition according to claim 6, wherein the composition is a food/beverage, internal medicine, liniment, nose wash, nose drops, cosmetic or eye wash.